

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A data storage system comprising:
 - an enclosure configured to house components of the data storage system, the enclosure having an outer surface and an inner surface;
 - an aperture extending between the outer surface and the inner surface of the enclosure, wherein the aperture has a larger cross-section adjacent the outer surface than adjacent the inner surface and wherein a diameter of the aperture continuously tapers from the outer surface to the inner surface of the enclosure; and
 - a filter disposed within the aperture.
2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the filter comprises a filtration canister.
3. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the filter has a first end adjacent the outer surface and a second end adjacent the inner surface, the first end having an area greater than the second end and the filter having a diameter that continuously tapers from the first end to the second end.
4. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the filter canister comprises a breather filter.
5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the filter comprises a desiccant.
6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the filter comprises a carbon absorbent.
7. (original) The system of claim 1 and further comprising a label adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter, wherein the label has markings on a first surface and adhesive on a second surface.

8. (original) The system of claim 1 and further comprising:

a seal mounted to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter; and
a label adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure and the seal, the label having markings
on a first surface and adhesive on a second surface.

9. (original) The system of claim 1 and further comprising:

a seal mounted to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter; and
a label layer adhered to the outer surface of the enclosure and the seal, the label layer
including a label removably deposited on a liner.

10. (original) The system of claim 1 and further comprising a seal adhered to the outer surface of
the enclosure and a portion of the filter.

11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A method of removing contaminants from air entering a data storage
system, the method comprising:

providing an enclosure configured to house components of the data storage system, the
enclosure having an inner surface and an outer surface;

forming an aperture in the enclosure that extends from the outer surface to the inner surface,
the aperture having a larger cross-section adjacent the outer surface than the cross-
section adjacent the inner surface and having a diameter that continuously tapers
from the outer surface to the inner surface of the enclosure; and

depositing a filter within the aperture to filter air entering the enclosure through the aperture.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein depositing the filter within the aperture comprises depositing a carbon absorbent within the aperture to absorb chemical contamination entering the enclosed system.

14. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein depositing the filter within the aperture comprises depositing a desiccant within the aperture to dehumidify the air entering the enclosed system.

15. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising adhering a label to the outer surface of the enclosure, the label having markings on a first surface and having adhesive on a second surface of the label.

16. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising:

mounting a seal to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter; and

adhering a label to the outer surface of the enclosure and the seal, wherein the label has markings on a first surface and adhesive on a second surface.

17. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising:

mounting a seal to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter; and

adhering a label layer to the outer surface of the enclosure and the seal, wherein the label layer includes a label removably deposited on a liner.

18. (original) The method of claim 12 and further comprising mounting a seal to the outer surface of the enclosure and a portion of the filter.

19. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein depositing the filter comprises:

transferring the filter from a supplier to an assembler in a tray;
removing the filter from the tray; and
placing the filter into the aperture of the enclosed system.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein depositing the filter further comprises:

mounting a seal layer to the outer surface of the tray and a portion of the filter, wherein the
seal layer includes a liner and a seal; and
fastening the liner to the tray with a fastener to prevent the seal from adhering to the tray
when the filter is removed from the tray.

21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein mounting the liner further comprises providing a
slit in the liner to ease detachment of the liner from the seal and the filter.

22. (currently amended) An enclosure system for a mechanical device comprising:

an enclosure having an outer surface and an inner surface;
an aperture extending between the outer surface and the inner surface of the enclosure,
wherein the aperture has a larger cross-section adjacent the outer surface than
adjacent the inner surface and has a diameter that continuously tapers from the outer
surface to the inner surface of the enclosure; and
mounting means for mounting a filter within the aperture.